

## Obituary

### MARION GILCHRIST, M.B., C.M.

Dr. Marion Gilchrist, the first woman to graduate in medicine at a Scottish university, died at her home in Glasgow on September 7. She was 88 years of age.

Marion Gilchrist was born in Bothwell and educated at Hamilton Academy. After studying at home for a time and at Queen Margaret College, Glasgow, she started to attend medical classes in 1890, though it was not until two years later that the University allowed women medical students to sit its examinations. She graduated M.B., C.M. with high commendation in 1894. Though the first woman in Scotland to gain this degree, Dr. Gilchrist was not the first woman to qualify, for several had previously taken the Scottish triple qualification.

After leaving hospital Dr. Gilchrist spent some time as an assistant in general practice before setting up in practice on her own. She specialized in ophthalmology and was assistant ophthalmic surgeon at the Victoria Infirmary for 20 years, as well as being ophthalmic surgeon to the Redlands Hospital for Women. During the first world war she accepted a major share of the work of the ophthalmological department of the Infirmary. She published several papers on her specialty in this and other journals.

In her youth Dr. Gilchrist was a keen Liberal and a supporter of the suffragette movement. Later on she worked most actively for the Medical Women's Federation, being several times president of the West of Scotland Branch. She was also one of the trustees of the Muirhead Trust, which has helped many women to become doctors and medical research workers. Her interests extended far beyond her chosen profession. In spite of her academic record she was never the traditional "blue-stocking," but an attractive woman interested in all aspects of humanity, particularly music and art. Her friends were drawn from a very wide circle.

Dr. Gilchrist was a member of the B.M.A. for 54 years. In 1928 she was elected chairman of the old Glasgow North Western Division, and three years later chairman of the reconstituted Glasgow Division, which she represented at Annual Meetings from 1930 to 1937. She retired from active work about ten years ago.

### C. E. TANGYE, C.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Dr. C. E. Tangye, formerly county medical officer of Wiltshire, died on August 20 at his home in St. Mawes. He was 74 years of age.

Claude Edward Tangye was the third son of Edward Tangye, who was one of a famous group of five brothers who founded a great engineering firm in Birmingham during the nineteenth century. He was educated at Blundell's School, and in childhood already showed a strong interest in doctoring and medicine. In spite of financial difficulties, and after a false start as a schoolmaster, he determinedly pursued his medical bent, graduating M.B., B.S. at Birmingham University in 1905. He then held resident appointments at the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, and was resident medical officer at the old Birmingham Children's Hospital in Broad Street. After proceeding M.D. in 1907 (qualifying for the gold medal in medicine), he took the diploma in public health in 1909 and was then appointed medical officer of health to a number of local authorities in mid-Warwickshire.

In 1919 Tangye was appointed medical officer of health for Wiltshire. During his 26 years in the county he built up the public health service to a high standard of efficiency by his energy, power of organization, and broad outlook on the many questions affecting the health and well-being of the community. Soon after taking up work in Wiltshire he realized the need for a scheme for orthopaedic treatment and was instrumental in starting the first Wiltshire clinic in 1923. The scheme developed rapidly under his guidance, and with the help of the staff of the Bath and Wessex Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, until it became one of the most comprehensive for orthopaedic treatment in the country. Another outstanding feature of Tangye's administration was his interest in the co-ordination of the work of the public assistance department with that of the medical department. In 1933 he introduced, as an experiment, the "open-choice scheme," giving patients on medical out-relief free choice of doctor. This scheme proved entirely successful and gradually replaced the old arrangements.

In 1928 Tangye was appointed a member of the Departmental Committee on Maternal Mortality and Morbidity and was associated with the other members in the submission of both the interim and final reports. He was president of the Wiltshire Branch of the B.M.A. in 1927, and he served on a number of the Association's committees.

His services to public health were recognized after his retirement by the award of the C.B.E. in 1944.

Tangye had a pleasant sense of humour and great humanity under an apparently dry approach. He had a marked integrity of character and a determination which carried him through to an outstanding position in his chosen field of public service. His main interests in his spare time were the classics, and in particular the works of Homer, which he enjoyed until his last illness. Tangye married Eva B. Oakden in 1910, and never fully recovered from the blow dealt him by her death in 1948.

The death of Dr. S. B. MALIK occurred suddenly at Dar-es-Salaam on August 16. He was one of the longest-established private practitioners in Tanganyika, and played a notable part in public affairs there. Sultan Baksh Malik was born at Multan in the Punjab in 1899, and came to England to study medicine at Charing Cross Hospital shortly after the end of the first world war. After qualifying in 1925 he was for a short time in practice in Manchester, but in 1926 he took the D.T.M. at Liverpool and went out to Dar-es-Salaam, where he joined Dr. K. M. Rana in practice. From the first he showed a keen interest in local affairs, and his marked ability and untiring keenness in voluntary work of all sorts were maintained up to the day of his death. Not long after his arrival in Dar-es-Salaam he was nominated to the township authority, which he served for many years, being president for eight years. When the town attained municipal status he continued to serve as a councillor. He was nominated to serve on the Legislative Council for two periods, from 1930 to 1935 and again from 1939 to 1944. During his second period of service he was nominated a member of the Executive Council. In the second world war he served voluntarily as an assistant director of man-power and also as chairman of the Commodity Distribution Board. He was awarded the O.B.E. for his public services in 1943. Besides taking a prominent part in the activities of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade over many years (at the time of his death he was its president), he was also keenly interested in scouting, and was chairman of the local association. For many years he was a member of the Medical Registration Board of Tanganyika, and he was a keen and prominent member of the Tanganyika Branch of the British Medical Association, of which he was

president at the time of his death. Despite his multifarious activities he continued to conduct a busy practice. He was most successful in using his influence against the development of racialism and in breaking down the barriers between the various communities. Himself a Muslim, he retained a broad and open mind on all subjects, which, coupled to his infinite capacity for never losing his temper, earned him the respect and admiration of all classes and all creeds. In the best traditions of his profession his life was devoted to humanity, and on his death Tanganyika has lost a citizen who made a great contribution to the harmonious development of the country.

Dr. MURIEL KEYES, who had practised in Harrogate for 30 years, died at her home there on August 20. She was 67 years of age. Muriel Keyes was born at Chigwell, Essex, and studied medicine at Edinburgh and Leeds, qualifying in 1920. She held a number of resident appointments at the Leeds General Infirmary, and was later appointed honorary clinical assistant at the Hospital for Women in Leeds. In Harrogate she held an honorary appointment as gynaecologist to the Royal Bath Hospital and Rawson Convalescent Home. She published a number of papers on gynaecological subjects, and collaborated in writing the section on diseases of women in the book *Baths and Medical Waters of Great Britain and Europe*. Dr. Keyes was a keen horse-woman, and until the outbreak of the last war she hunted regularly with the York and Ainsty (North). Among her other interests singing had an important place, and she was a member of the Harrogate Madrigal Club for a long time. Dr. Keyes had a serious operation last November, and earlier this year she returned from convalescing in Switzerland. A memorial service was held in St. Peter's Church, Harrogate, on August 28.

Dr. GUY JOSEPH BRANSON died at his home in Edgbaston, Birmingham, on September 2. He was 82 years of age. Before taking up the study of medicine he took an arts degree at London University, and he then became a medical student at Queen's College, Birmingham. He qualified in 1894, graduated M.B. (London) in 1895, and proceeded M.D. in 1900. He practised in Birmingham all his professional life. His special interests were neurology and psychology, and at one time he was neurological consultant to the Ministry of Pensions.

Dr. James F. Brailsford writes: With the passing of Dr. Guy Branson, Birmingham citizens have lost one of their outstanding doctors, and his closer associates will mourn the loss of a loyal and stout friend. For nearly 60 years he exhibited the highest traditions of medicine to the great benefit of his patients and to the honour and glory of his profession. His brusque manner, his careful scrutiny of men and material, of patient and doctor, may not have brought him the recognition of a popular doctor, but his rigid integrity, his firm honesty of purpose, his searching inquiry into all things reported to be good for his patients, entitled him to the term wise physician. He was one of the old school of family doctors, and those who were fortunate enough to be his patients found in him always a true guide, philosopher, and friend. He respected academic status and position only when it was coupled with honest endeavour, but all who came into contact with him, be he patient or consultant, experienced a chastening discipline—a discipline which has done more to establish the high standard of British medicine than all the showy exponents of the "scientific" fashions of the time. Branson had a profound respect for, and knowledge of, psychology, which gave him a clear insight into human thought and conduct, and this, coupled with his wide reading and experience, his love of the truth, and sound appreciation of all modern advances, fitted him to assess values. He did not tolerate the shallow enthusiast, but he was kind and encouraging to all who showed an earnest desire to render honest service. He was opposed to the exploitation of medicine, be it private or public. The profession has been ennobled by his services, for he set a high pattern throughout a long and useful life.

Dr. NORMAN HAIRE, the president of the Sex Education Society and author of many works on birth control and sex education, died in London on September 11 aged 60. Norman Haire was born in Sydney, New South Wales, and educated at Forte Street Model School and Sydney University. After graduating M.B., Ch.M. in 1915 he held a number of resident posts in hospitals, including No. 4 Australian General Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children in Brisbane, and served in the Australian Army Medical Corps. He came to this country in 1919, and immediately took an active part in spreading knowledge about birth control. In 1921 he helped to found the Walworth Welfare Centre, where contraceptive advice was given to the mothers who attended. The work of Steinach and Voronoff on rejuvenation was much discussed in the nineteen-twenties, and Haire made a special study of it. He was convinced that many of the ills of mankind were due to sexual maladjustment, and he wrote many papers and books on the subjects in which he was interested, including the *Encyclopaedia of Sexual Knowledge*, which was published in 1934. He travelled widely, and attended many international congresses as a delegate from England. In 1925 he was president of the contraceptive section of the Third International Birth Control Conference, held in London, and in 1929 he organized the Third International Congress of the World League for Sexual Reform, of which he was co-president. Dr. Haire was unmarried.

Dr. FELIX EMANUEL ROSENTHAL, formerly professor of medicine at the University of Breslau, died recently in his 68th year. He came to this country in 1938 as a victim of the Nazi regime, and settled in Leicester, where he spent the remainder of his working life. Originally an assistant in Morgenroth's serological department in the Pathological Institute of the Charité in Berlin, he continued at Breslau under the celebrated Minkowski for a further 12 years, eventually being called to the post of director of medicine at the Jewish Hospital in Hamburg. The abrupt change from a semi-academic life to general practice would have daunted most men of middle age, but Rosenthal continued his work in the department of experimental medicine at University College, Leicester, and threw himself into his new life with enthusiasm. He established himself at the same time in Leicester as a popular doctor, most highly regarded by his colleagues and patients alike. His publications included many papers on haematology, the reticulo-endothelial system, and the liver, on which he wrote an excellent book. The kindest of men, Rosenthal combined devotion to duty and scientific interest to an unusual degree. He was indeed a typical representative of all that was best in German medicine during the first three decades of this century, and the impressive attendance at his funeral is a measure of the affection and admiration felt for him in his adopted town.—A. L.

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## Medico-Legal

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### DEATH FROM NUPERCALINE POISONING

[FROM OUR MEDICO-LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

On May 21, 1951, Miss Evelyn Ann Warner, aged 19, was admitted to Ashford Hospital, Middlesex, for treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis. On November 19, 1951, she was prepared for the operation of thoracoscopy, but this was not carried out, because she appeared rather shocked after an injection of about 10 ml. of 2% "novocain."

On November 24 she was tested for sensitivity to nupercaine with 2 ml. of 2/1,000 nupercaine, and as the test was negative the operation was planned for December 3, with nupercaine as the local anaesthetic. On November 26 the house-physician ordered 30 ml. of 2% nupercaine from the dispensary, intending that it should be diluted at the surgeon's discretion.